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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Signature: Jim Maurice Date: October 31, 2002

Title: Method and Apparatus for Reducing the Computational Complexity and Relaxing the Critical Path of Reduced State Sequence Estimation (RSSE) Techniques

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

20 Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

NOV 07 2002

SIR:

Technology Center 2600

25 In response to the outstanding Office Action, dated August 15, 2002,
please amend the above-identified patent application as follows. A version of the
amendments that have been marked to show all changes is included as an Appendix.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

30 Please amend the specification as indicated in the enclosed marked up version of the original specification. A substitute specification incorporating such changes is also submitted herewith. No new matter has been introduced

IN THE ABSTRACT:

35 Please amend the Abstract as indicated below:

A method and apparatus are disclosed for reducing the complexity of reduced state sequence estimation (RSSE) techniques for a given number of states while also reducing the critical path problem. The intersymbol interference due to the less significant tail taps of the channel impulse response is processed with a lower complexity cancellation algorithm using tentative decisions, while the intersymbol interference due